

## **2022 EDUCATION REPORT**

*Electric Utility Fleet Managers Conference (EUFMC)*

EUFMC is an educational conference attended by representatives of fleets from across the U.S. and Canada that operate, manage and maintain utility equipment. The annual conference is held at the Williamsburg Lodge and Conference Center in Williamsburg, Virginia.

The 68<sup>th</sup> annual EUFMC was marked by record attendance. On site were 161 representatives from fleets operating utility equipment, including 70 first-time attendees. This year as well, nine new companies sent fleet professionals to the conference. Also in attendance were 338 representatives from 86 manufacturers and providers of vehicles, equipment, products and services for utility fleet operations.

### **Driving Safety, Sustainability & Technical Expertise**

The EUFMC General Session is a two-day comprehensive educational program featuring presentations by industry experts, manufacturers and fleets. All registered EUFMC attendees have access to copies of the educational presentations.

#### *Driving Safety Culture – Brian Herman, Tucson Electric Power*

Developing and implementing strategies to improve your company's safety is part the job for many fleet professionals. Attendees heard about actionable steps to influence safety culture and performance. Topics during this presentation included Understanding & Responding to Human Error and Building Resiliency & Safety Capacity.

#### *Electrification Planning – Casey Fallon, SMUD; Brian Schiavone, National Grid. Moderator: Todd Carlson, EUFMC Director*

Fleets leaning into aggressive electrification goals shared how they are planning for the adoption of EVs across various asset classes in their fleet. The discussion covered influencing executive alignment, budgeting, vehicle replacement plans, vehicle availability forecasting, and charger infrastructure planning.

#### *Fleet Sustainability Targets – Jessie Lund, CALSTART; Grant Forman, Quanta Services*

CALSTART provided a non-utility view of sustainability and why zero emissions vehicles are on everyone's radar. Quanta shared what it takes to develop an

internal sustainability reporting program, what's involved, and how fleets impact a company's report.

*Legal Perspectives – John Radeck, Hood Law Firm*

An overview of the rising reality of 'nuclear' legal verdicts and what fleet managers need to know to protect their companies.

*Fleet Maintenance Metrics – Les Faul, ComEd; Scott Ditmer, Serco. Moderator: Peter Michaud, EUFMC Director*

Fleet leaders covered what they measure and what they have found to be the most helpful KPIs to keep their fleets cost effectively running for their clients.

*Fleet Specific Charging Infrastructure – Wayne Palmquist, Portland General Electric*

One utility's journey to install fleet chargers at their facility. The end-to-end overview covered lessons learned about internal team coordination, design, planning, construction, permitting, installation, and commissioning of fleet chargers.

*A Conversation With Mary Barra*

*Moderator: Dave Meisel, EUFMC Senior Vice President*

A live exchange with Mary Barra, Chair and CEO of General Motors, who discussed GM's approach to addressing supply chain challenges, developing a range of electric vehicles, including work trucks and charging infrastructure solutions, and meeting service needs.

*Replacement Planning – Meighan Read, Duke Energy; John Conaboy, PPL Electric Utility. Moderator: Chris Shaffer, Utilimarc*

When do you replace your fleet vehicles? What procedures are present for garage or client feedback? Fleets discussed what they do, what works well, where the traps and pain points are, and the resulting outcomes.

*Fleet Regulatory Updates – Pat O'Connor, Kent & O'Connor*

An update from an active D.C. lobbyist covering current policy efforts, trends, and new legislation that impact fleets.

*Fleet Specification Best Practices – Fortunato Gulino, Consolidated Edison; Richard Keller, NiSource. Moderator: Dave Meisel, EUFMC Senior Vice President*

This panel covered examples of how utilities balance and set their fleet standards, fleet specifications, safety systems, work methods, ergonomics, and cost management across their various vehicle and equipment classes.

*What Fleet Managers Need To Know About ANSI Updates – James Christian, Versalift*

Understanding what can go wrong and what fleet managers need to know about the ANSI standards for bucket trucks and digger derricks. Also covered were what recent updates to the standards entail.

*Fleet Maintenance Best Practices – Frank Nogales, Arizona Public Service; Gregg Doeden, PAR Western Line Contractors. Moderator: Greg Loew, EUFMC Vice President*

A discussion about what's working best in garages from managing staff to performing work. Parts shortages, outsourcing, safety, and other topics were included as well.

*Telematics Case Studies – Kevin Tovar, Southern California Edison; Terry Gutterman, Xcel Energy; Art Alvarez, San Diego Gas & Electric. Moderator: Todd Carlson, EUFMC Director*

Three fleets covered what the most important considerations are for implementing telematics systems. Also discussed where what they have learned, what their most impactful outcomes were, their current pain points, and what these fleets envision as their next steps moving forward.

*Roundtables -- Moderator: Dan Remmert, EUFMC Director*

EUFMC Roundtables provide fleet representatives and suppliers the opportunity to exchange information and discuss mutual challenges, find solutions and develop best practices. Fleet representatives are surveyed in advance about Roundtable discussion topics suggested by industry experts. Questions covered in 2022 included:

1. Do you have BEV goals for light duty vehicles?
2. How would you explain your light duty goal in terms of percent of new purchases?
3. For budget years 2022 and/or 2023 are you planning to purchase a BEV ½ ton pickup?
4. If BEVs in truck classes 5-8 were available for your application today, when would you purchase?
5. Do you have published goals or joined the recent EEI initiative on EVs?
6. Is your company currently investing in alternative fuel technologies other than electric?
7. Who is responsible for designing/building your internal charging infrastructure?
8. Do you have behind the fence charging available for operations charging?
9. Does your company offer free charging for employee's personal vehicles at company locations?
10. If yes, what is your company's policy on reimbursement?

11. Does your company have a reimbursement policy for take home charging?
12. Does your company utilize camera technology in your vehicles?
13. If yes, is it?
14. Do you utilize telematics data to start a HR investigation?
15. Does your company provide telematics generated reporting to operations?
16. If yes, what type of reports are provided?
17. How are current supply chain conditions affecting your vehicle replacement plan?
18. What is your company's sourcing practice on new vehicles and equipment?
19. Has the number of units your fleet maintains increased since COVID?
20. Has your utility started the process of retiring COVID retained units?
21. How have supply chain issues most impacted your maintenance group?
22. Has your company changed its stance on vehicle standards?
23. Who in your company has the oversight on vehicle standards?
24. Does your Fleet Services Group have a Quality Assurance Program?
25. If yes, what does your program cover?
26. Are current economic or political factors affecting workforce staffing levels?
27. Have you seen a change in candidate interest in employment at your company?
28. Is your company utilizing bucket load technology on aerials?
29. If yes, which organization is responsible for compliance?
30. How does your company train operators on aerials and derricks?
31. Is your company ordering safety items such as collision avoidance and lane departure systems on new chassis?
32. If yes, do have any data to support a reduction in accidents?
33. Are your shops trained and equipped to adjust advanced drive assistance systems (ADAS)?

### *SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Fearless Success*

John Foley, who spent his early career as a lead solo pilot in the U.S. Navy Blue Angels flight demonstration squadron, was the featured dinner speaker at EUFMC. Now the founder and CEO of John Foley Inc. and CenterPoint Companies, a training organization, he shared video footage from flights and stories about flying inches apart at 500 MPH and offered valuable lessons about the importance of preparation and communication to lasting success.

### **Equipment Events**

EUFMC includes a drive-through utility equipment demonstration and an equipment show with more than 60 displays where suppliers showcase their latest products and new technologies.

**ABOUT EUFMC**

The objective of the EUFMC, a non-profit association, is to provide educational and technical information pertaining to the design, procurement, application, operation, management and maintenance of utility equipment used by fleets. The conference provides a forum where fleet professionals can exchange information and discuss mutual challenges, find solutions and develop best practices through close cooperation with manufacturers and suppliers of vehicles, equipment, products and services for utility fleet operations.

For more information, visit [www.eufmc.com](http://www.eufmc.com).